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the true and inner meaning of such terrible rites? We rescue from a foot-note (pp. 18, 19), the following suggestion:

"This practice [sacrificing and devouring human beings] is traced by some historians to the tribe of the Mexi, which descended from Tenoch . . . Prisoners taken in war were the most highly prized victims, but, failing these, or for the celebration of minor festivals, slaves were easily bought, or were offered by their owners for this purpose. Small infants were also commonly sold by their mothers, and instances of free-born men offering themselves as victims were not unknown. The victims were frequently drugged, in such wise that they went unconsciously, or even willingly, to the altar. If a great festival, requiring many and choice victims, fell in a time of peace, war would be undertaken upon any frivolous pretext in order to procure the desired offerings. The warrior who had captured the victim in battle would not eat of the latter's flesh, as a sort of spiritual relationship was held to exist between them, not dissimilar to that of a sponsor and his god-child in Christian baptism—or even closer, for the flesh of the victim was considered also as the very flesh of the captor. The eating of this human body was not an act of gluttonous cannibalism alone, but was believed to have mystic significance, the flesh having undergone some mysterious transmutation, by virtue of the sacrificial rite, and to be really consecrated; it was spoken of also as the 'true body' of the deity to whom it was offered, and also as the 'food of soul.' None but chiefs and distinguished persons, specially designated, was permitted to partake of the sacramental feast, which was celebrated with much ceremony and gravity. If the victim was a slave, the rites were similar, but simpler."

M. W.

Motoring in the Balkans. Along the Highways of Dalmatia, Montenegro, the Herzegovina and Bosnia. By Frances Kingsley Hutchinson. 341 pp., map, over 100 illustrations from photographs by the author, and index. 8vo. A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago, 1909. \$2.75.

The automobile being an innovation along most of the 1,483 miles traversed by Mrs. Hutchinson and her party, it made a decided sensation among the live stock on the way. The author, with characteristic Chicago enterprise, secured a photograph of a horse that had just dragged his vehicle over a stone wall in his frantic desire to give the strange machine the whole road. In the capital of Montenegro, the author was told that its ruler, Prince Nicola I, father of the Queen of Italy, was attending service in a certain church. "Will he let me take his photograph when he comes out?" she asked. The soldier merely shrugged his shoulders. But the Prince and his two daughters were duly snap-shotted as they were walking home, and the picture is the frontispiece of the book.

Mrs. Hutchinson is a vivacious writer, with a keen eye for the novel and the picturesque. The lands and peoples of the western Balkans are among the few new things left for the globe-trotter and the author writes about them, not only in an entertaining manner but also with the evident purpose of showing how much pleasure and profit may be derived from a visit to this little known part of Europe.

Aztecs and Mayas. By Thomas J. Diven. Two Vols. Vol. I. pp. 248. 12mo. The Antiquarian Company, Chicago, 1909. \$1.

While this volume is written in a somewhat heterogeneous and fantastic manner the author is serious and his conclusions in the main accord with those

accepted today by the majority of the ethnologists and archæologists of this country, and are stated in their works. In some passages he is extremely personal and derogatory. Any book must be lowered by this practice. He is also inclined to be dogmatic as, for example, when he says "no book on any subject should ever be printed larger than a duodecimo." Besides this is not pertinent to archæology.

Less than a third of the book is given to the Aztecs and Mayas, but as this is only the first volume the deficit may be made up in what is to follow. In delimiting the "Arizona field" as he terms the Pueblo region, he omits everything north of the Colorado and San Juan. It is true the many-storied house has not been found there, but the remains (house-walls, pottery, etc.), indicate the same level of culture and the same stocks, reaching at least as far north in Utah as the Pine Valley Mountains and the Pink Cliffs. The reviewer has found coil-made pottery on the Sevier far below Panguitch, and it is not improbable that ruins may be discovered in that neighborhood also. The "Arizona field" then should be limited on the north by at least the parallel of 39° , especially as the canyons of the Colorado, of the Green and of the Grand around and above their junction, as far as Gunnison Crossing, are all full of ruins. Indeed at present it is difficult to say where the northern limit may be. Pottery has been found at Salt Lake.

He refers to numerous perforated stones discovered in this field and endeavors to fathom some of their uses. Stones of a similar kind are found all over the United States. In Reykjavik, Iceland, is preserved an ancient loom, such as was used by the early Scandinavians, and it is a good example of a primitive loom, showing each thread of the warp drawn taut by a heavy stone tied to the bottom end through a perforation. As this was one of the earliest types of loom, the world round, and as the natives of this continent were primitive weavers on similar looms it seems probable that many of the perforated stones were used for this purpose. The more primitive the weaver the more irregular these weights would be.

The author declares himself not satisfied with this present work and says he was overwhelmed with other cares during its preparation. It is a pity he did not wait. As he says that his task has just begun with this book it may be wished that the succeeding part may be more consecutive in thought and free from aspersions.

In Closed Territory. By Edgar Beecher Bronson. xix and 299 pp., nearly 100 illustrations from photographs by the author, outline map of British E. Africa and index. A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago, 1910. \$1.75 net.

Mr. Bronson's hunting tour was through the same wild game regions visited, soon after, by Mr. Roosevelt. He spent thirteen months shooting there and tells the story of his many adventures with the art of the practiced writer. Though the book will especially interest those who love the wilds and the pursuit of its big game, it contains much that will profit the general reader. He says that the white settlers, stock raisers and farmers have already taken up about 12,000,000 acres on the high plateau of British East Africa. On account of the enormous quantity of big game, they find it difficult to maintain fences. There is a general feeling that the Government should cease to extend its protection of game over immense regions that are capable of development and changes in the game laws are now under consideration. Mr. Bronson adds: "Give the settler a free hand and a year or two will see easy shooting ended within seventy-five miles of the railroad."